



# SEATTLE FOUNDATION

the heart & science of philanthropy

# GLOBAL GIVING

## VISION

*All Greater Seattle residents are more aware of pressing global challenges, and engaged in the effort to eradicate poverty, address inequality, ensure basic human rights and guarantee equal access to opportunity for all people around the world.*

Worldwide, billions of people live in poverty and lack basic human rights and equal access to opportunity. Challenges facing the world are complex, including: gender inequality; unemployment; global health disparities; vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change; increasing conflict; and growing intolerance and discrimination. We are urgently in need of a path toward more sustainable development that benefits all people.

For example, we know women and girls face enormous obstacles and are disproportionately affected by poverty. Nearly two-thirds of the world's illiterate adults are women, a proportion that has remained unchanged for the past 20 years. Every year, 15 million girls are married before the age of 18, and one-third of women worldwide have suffered physical or sexual violence.



## Working Toward a Healthy Community

Seattle Foundation established the Healthy Community Framework to delineate the essential elements of a thriving community, and focus

philanthropy where it can have the greatest impact. Built on eight elements, the framework acknowledges the complex and interwoven nature of the challenges and assets in our community and allows philanthropists to address the need for comprehensive multi-issue solutions.

■ For each element, we provide a vision for change, high-level context and analysis, recommended priorities, and proven actionable approaches to effective giving informed by research, data, community insight, and technical expertise.



Furthermore, many living in poverty lack access to some of the most basic human rights, such as life-saving medicine, clean water and sustainable sources of food.



For example, more than 663 million people lack access to clean water, representing nearly one in ten people worldwide, or twice the population of the United States. Diseases from contaminated water kill more people every year than all forms of violence, including war. Forty-three percent of those deaths are children under five-years-old. Access to clean water and basic sanitation can save approximately 16,000 lives every week.

The Seattle region is uniquely positioned to address pressing global challenges. By investing in high-impact local and international nonprofits dedicated to eradicating poverty and inequality, Seattle Foundation, with our affiliate Seattle International Foundation, is strengthening Seattle's role in making the world more equitable, sustainable and inclusive.

# 4 Priorities for Impact

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**1** Promote health and well-being around the world, through both direct and systems-level approaches that allow all people to lead healthy, productive lives.

## **APPROACHES**

- Ensure access to clean water, as well as adequate and equitable sanitation systems and hygiene, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls
- Address hunger and malnutrition by providing access to healthy, sustainable foods with a focus on infants, children and mothers
- Support disease prevention and increase access to treatment by supporting research, development and distribution of vaccines and essential medicines
- Improve access to healthcare overall, by increasing access to lifesaving medicines, treatments and preventative medicine, as well as training healthcare workers

**2** Empower women and girls through direct support and advocacy efforts promoting gender equality, giving agency and equal opportunity to women and girls, who shoulder a disproportionate burden of global poverty.

## **APPROACHES**

- Support the economic empowerment of women and girls, by strengthening women's legal rights, expanding employment opportunities, fostering entrepreneurship and improving access to financial support and loans
- Increase women and girls' access to comprehensive and quality healthcare, through ensuring universal access to reproductive health and rights, as well as investing in programs that support maternal-child health (including mental health) and address violence against women in all forms
- Ensure equal access to education, including early childhood through post-secondary, as well as technical and vocational training
- Promote efforts focused on shifting gender norms in order to advance gender equality
- Support efforts that amplify women's voices and increase their participation as leaders in society, at all levels

## 4 Priorities for Impact (continued)

3

Actively and thoughtfully respond to natural disasters and world crises with our organizational and philanthropic partners to ensure effective grantmaking when these funds are needed most.

### APPROACHES

- Immediate (Triage/Response): Focus on coordinating urgent responses including safety, food, temporary shelter, clean water, and emergency medical attention
- Intermediate (Stabilization/Recovery): Focus on access to food and water, longer-term shelter, sanitation, health care, electricity and other utilities, and more long-term medical attention
- Long Term (Rebuilding): Rebuild schools, hospitals, and communities
- Preparedness and Mitigation: Develop and enhance national systems for warning and prediction of disasters

4

Leveraging Seattle International Foundation's long history in the region, support local leaders to drive change in Central America through leadership development, research, policy reform and good governance.

### APPROACHES

- Provide leadership development training and resources for young, upcoming and promising individuals with a background in and/or commitment to social change
- Support high-quality research that advances advocacy and policy reform, informs and influences the philanthropic sector, and equips practitioners with relevant and timely information that can guide their work on the most pressing issues facing the region
- Focus on good governance and public policy reforms that promote long-lasting, systems changes that improve the lives of entire countries.